



SECOND LEAGUE.

LUTON v. BOLTON WANDERERS.

VICTORY FOR THE VISITORS IN A GALE

The visit of Bolton Wanderers, our opponents two seasons ago in the English Cup, proved a great attraction at the Town ground on Saturday. The "Trotters" stayed at Bedford overnight to recover from the effects of the long journey from Lancashire, and came to Luton at 1.21. It was blowing a half-gale most of the day, and during the game, rain, hail, and sunshine were strangely mixed. The locals played their usual team, the absence of Williams and Inglis being now of some weeks' reckoning.

Mr. W. G. Jones, of Leicester, had the following 22 men under command:

Luton: Daw; Dow and McCurdy; Morrison, Stewart, and Ralley; Brown, Brock, Fairgrieve, McInnes and Eckford.

Bolton: Sutcliffe; Somerville and Halley; Brown, McAteer, and Freebairn; Gilligan, Morgan, Bell, Barlow and Jack.

The home team had the good fortune to win the toss, and with the rough wind in their favour began the game with bright prospects. For about 20 minutes, the ball hovered about the Bolton goal, and was frequently blown into touch from the big kicks of the backs. Sutcliffe saved his first shot from Brown's centre, and very smartly it was done, too. Eckford was fouled, and this produced a corner. The Luton forwards nearly rushed the Bolton custodian through the net, and Sutcliffe loudly appealed for a foul, but only a goal-kick was awarded.

All the while, the visitors' backs had been sorely tried. However, McCurdy neatly stopped a run by Morgan. Some 15 minutes had passed, when the home left wing dashed close in, and Fairgrieve appeared to scrimmage the ball over the line before Sutcliffe cleared in a terrific "melee." The crowd claimed a goal, and there was some hooting when the referee only awarded Luton a free-kick ten yards off. Again the International came to the rescue and cleared by a fine throw-out.

Still Luton pressed. After consulting the linesmen, Mr. Jones gave them a corner, and a miss by Halley was splendidly covered by Sutcliffe, when Luton seemed certain to score. It was mid-way through the first half before Daw handled the ball, from Gilligan and then from Barlow. McCurdy just stopped a dangerous rush by Bell, Bolton being conceded a corner, which was placed wide. After Brown had run to the other end, Jack burst away, and a beautiful centre from the right wing was missed in agonising fashion by Bell, who had an open goal.

Bolton had now more of the game, in spite of the wind, and Daw had to be wide-awake. Once he upset a Bolton forward as the ball went behind, but the referee—after again consulting the linesmen—punished him with nothing more severe than a goal-kick. Three times in succession the Bolton goal-keeper distinguished himself. He caught a fine long shot by Morrison, threw out another at short range, and saved splendidly a magnificent shot from Brown just under the bar. There were three Luton forwards close up, but they were not lucky enough to intercept Sutcliffe's return, Fairgrieve then putting behind. The Bolton vanguard were not idle, and Dow effected two grand clearances, while Sutcliffe kept out a nasty one, which glided off Somerville's head. Half-time:

No SCORE.

It was a fine performance for the visitors—thanks chiefly to Sutcliffe—to have kept the score-sheet blank in spite of losing the toss. Consequently, Luton could not begin the second half with very great confidence. Daw nearly dropped the first shot which came to him, but Brown forced a corner off Somerville, Ralley showing up with an excellent return. Play became a little rough for a time and Stewart was rather badly kicked. Bolton took a corner, and then McInnes won applause for a pretty high shot, which nearly grazed the cross-bar.

A brilliant single-handed run down the field was made by McInnes and Eckford but the ball went behind after Sutcliffe had left his goal. Daw got down on his knees to a hard shot from Bell, and then some laughter was caused by the referee getting "floored" in a collision with the ball. After some more capital work by Dow, McInnes handled about 15 yards out of goal. It was an awkward position, but the visitors were well up. The ball was placed well under the bar, where after a brief scrimmage "Bob" Jack scored No. 1. This was after 18 minutes' play. It was a sore blow to Luton, but worse remained behind. Only 2 minutes later, Gilligan ran down and thanks to a misunderstanding between the Luton backs, Barlow had the easiest task to score No 2. If Brock had had any luck he would have scored soon afterwards, and this might have put fresh heart into the locals. But Sutcliffe seemed an impenetrable barrier. At the other end, Daw did finely in saving hot shots from Bell and Morgan in succession, the second one appearing a dead "cert." The game was well over by the last quarter of an hour, and the only incident worth mentioning was another feat by Dow, who brilliantly checked a run by Jack. Luton were well beaten at the finish:

BOLTON WANDERERS	2
LUTON	0